
By: **Delegate Rosenberg**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2004

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Medical Advisory Committee on Physical Evaluations for Student Athletes**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Medical Advisory Committee on Physical
4 Evaluations for Student Athletes; providing for the membership of the
5 Committee; requiring the Committee to advise the Maryland Public Secondary
6 Schools Athletic Association on the content and use of a certain physical
7 evaluation form; requiring the Committee to review certain physical evaluation
8 procedures at least every 3 years and to consider certain information; requiring
9 the State Department of Education to adopt certain regulations; defining a
10 certain term; and generally relating to the Medical Advisory Committee on
11 Physical Evaluations for Student Athletes.

12 BY adding to

13 Article - Education

14 Section 7-420

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

17 **Preamble**

18 WHEREAS, Heart disease, the nations' number one killer, affects youngsters as
19 well as adults, and sudden death during an athletic event is a highly-visible tragedy
20 that claims the lives of seemingly healthy young people; and

21 WHEREAS, A December 2003 study reported in the Journal of the American
22 College of Cardiology found that teens and young adults who regularly train and
23 compete in sports are more than twice as likely to experience sudden death than
24 non-athletes; and

25 WHEREAS, Many sudden deaths that occur during an athletic event are caused
26 by an asymptomatic heart condition for which there is no obvious warning, but if
27 detected, even these conditions can be treated; and

28 WHEREAS, The authors of the December 2003 study recommend that athletes
29 continue to be screened for underlying heart conditions; and

1 WHEREAS, The current standard of pre-sports physical exams may not go far
2 enough to find heart defects and avert tragedies; and

3 WHEREAS, New forms of ultrasound technology make broader application of
4 cardiac screening practical and feasible from medical, economic, and logistical
5 perspectives; now, therefore,

6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
7 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

8 **Article - Education**

9 7-420.

10 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "COMMITTEE" MEANS THE MEDICAL ADVISORY
11 COMMITTEE ON PHYSICAL EVALUATIONS FOR STUDENT ATHLETES.

12 (B) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND PUBLIC SECONDARY
13 SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION SHALL ESTABLISH A MEDICAL ADVISORY
14 COMMITTEE ON PHYSICAL EVALUATIONS FOR STUDENT ATHLETES.

15 (C) THE COMMITTEE SHALL CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

16 (1) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND PUBLIC SECONDARY
17 SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION; AND

18 (2) THE FOLLOWING 16 MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE
19 DIRECTOR:

20 (I) TWO COACHES FROM MARYLAND PUBLIC SECONDARY
21 SCHOOLS;

22 (II) TWO ATHLETIC DIRECTORS FROM MARYLAND PUBLIC
23 SECONDARY SCHOOLS;

24 (III) ONE PRINCIPAL FROM A MARYLAND PUBLIC SECONDARY
25 SCHOOL;

26 (IV) TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE MARYLAND
27 INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION;

28 (V) FIVE PHYSICIANS LICENSED IN MARYLAND, INCLUDING:

29 1. ONE PEDIATRICIAN;

30 2. ONE ORTHOPEDIST;

31 3. ONE CARDIOLOGIST;

32 4. ONE EMERGENCY ROOM PHYSICIAN; AND

